



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 27, 2011

H.R. 295

A bill to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 15, 2011

H.R. 295 would authorize the appropriation of \$7 million in each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to conduct certain hydrographic activities (the measurement and description of features that affect maritime navigation). Enacting H.R. 295 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

Public Law 110-386 authorized the appropriation of \$182 million for fiscal year 2012 for NOAA to carry out hydrographic activities. H.R. 295 would authorize NOAA to use a portion (\$7 million) of those amounts in 2012 to carry out certain hydrographic activities in the Arctic. Spending of those amounts would have no impact on the federal budget because it would not increase amounts that are authorized to be appropriated under current law.

The bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$7 million in fiscal year 2013 to carry out hydrographic activities in the Arctic. CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost \$7 million over the 2013-2016 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amount.

H.R. 295 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.